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January 18, 2005

Re:

Railroad Ventures, Inc. - Abandonment Exemption Between Youngstown, OH and Darlington, PA in Mahoning and Columbiana Counties, OH and Beaver County, PA

Docket No: AB-556 (Sub No 2X)

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and ten copies of Petition for Extension of Time filed by Railroad Ventures, Inc. in the above captioned matter.

Copies of this Petition for Extension of Time have been served on all parties of record. Please date stamp and return to the undersigned the additional copy of this letter in the self addressed, stamped envelope provided.

Very truly yours,

ENTERED Office of Proceedings

JAN 2 1 2004

Part of Public Record Richard R. Wilson

VUONO & GRAY, LLC

Attorney for Railroad Ventures, Inc

RRW/bab Enclosure

xc:

Railroad Ventures, Inc. All Parties of Record

Before the SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO: AB 556 (Sub No. 2X)

RAILROAD VENTURES, INC. – ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION BETWEEN YOUNGSTOWN, OH AND DARLINGTON, PA, IN MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES, OH AND BEAVER COUNTY, PA

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN 2 1 2004

Part of Public Recom RICHARD R. WILSON, ESQ. Attorney for Railroad Ventures, Inc. Pa. I.D. #25661 Vuono & Gray, L.L.C. 2310 Grant Building Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 471-1800

Dated: January 18, 2005

Before the SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO: AB 556 (Sub No. 2X)

RAILROAD VENTURES, INC. – ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION BETWEEN YOUNGSTOWN, OH AND DARLINGTON, PA, IN MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES, OH AND BEAVER COUNTY, PA

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Railroad Ventures, Inc. ("RVI") files this Petition for Extension of Time in response to the Joint Petition to Reopen and Reconsider filed January 4, 2005 and supplemented on January 6, 2005 by Columbiana County Port Authority ("CCPA") and Central Columbiana and Pennsylvania Railway ("CCPR"). (Collectively "joint petitioners") In support thereof, RVI states as follows:

On January 3, 2005 as supplemented on January 6, 2005, joint petitioners filed a Joint Motion to Reopen and Reconsider to which was attached a packet of materials three inches thick containing supporting verified statements and documentation which were far in excess of the thirty page limitation set forth at 49 C.F.R. §1152.25(e)(5). Ordinarily, under the Board's Rules of Practice, 49 C.F.R. §1104.13(a), RVI would have 20 days within which to file a reply or motion addressed to this pleading. However, much of the documentation submitted by joint petitioners is of a detailed technical nature regarding expenses allegedly incurred in connection with crossing and line repairs that were paid by CCPA from the escrow fund created by the Board and entrusted to CCPA. Since CCPA and CCPR were previously afforded a full and fair opportunity in 2003 to submit all necessary documentation to justify their expenditures and did not do so and in light of the

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questionable nature of certain prior documentary submissions by CCPA and CCPR, RVI wishes to have these additional CCPA/CCPR documents reviewed by its consultant Mr. George Wehner. However, Mr. Wehner's office advises that he will be unavailable until January 24, 2005 and then, given his work load and the volume of documents submitted by joint petitioners, it will take Mr. Wehner at least 30 days to review this material and prepare an assessment for RVI evaluating the joint petitioners' submissions. Counsel for joint petitioners have advised that they do not oppose the requested extension of time.

Accordingly, RVI respectfully requests that the Board grant it an extension until February 28, 2005 within which to file responsive pleadings to the Joint Petition for Reopening and Reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted,

VUONO & GRAY, LLC

By:

Richard R. Wilson

Attorney for Railroad Ventures, Inc.

VUONO & GRAY, LLC 2310 Grant Building Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-471-1800

Dated: January 18, 2005

^{1.} Furthermore, depending on Mr. Wehner's investigation, it may be necessary for RVI to conduct discovery, but that would be the subject of a separate filing by RVI.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day of January, 2005 served a copy of the Petition for Extension of Time upon the following by first class United States Mail, postage prepaid:

James E. Betts, Chairman Ohio Rail Development Commission 50 W. Broad Street 15th Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Richard H. Streeter, Esq. Barnes & Thornburg 750 17th Street, N.W. Suite 900 Washington, DC 20006 Keith G. O'Brien, Esq. Rea, Cross & Auchincloss Suite 570 1707 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

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Richard R. Wilson

Attorney for Railroad Ventures, Inc.